



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Scott Mittelstadt** Chief Deputy

Red Ribbon Week Press Release
October 23-31, 2019



The Dodge County Sheriff's Office will soon be celebrating RED RIBBON WEEK, along with the US Drug Enforcement Agency.

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office invites the community to take a visible stand against drugs by celebrating Red Ribbon Week from October 23-31. This can be done by changing your porch light to a red light for the week or placing red ribbons on your property to show support for a drug-free Dodge County. During this week, you will see red banners around the Sheriff's Office.

You can also take time to talk to your children and loved ones about the dangers of drug use and the impacts it can have on their lives. Included in our website is a drug-free pledge to share with your family and loved ones.

Red Ribbon Week raises awareness of drug use and the problems related to drugs facing our community and encourages parents, educators, business owners and other community organizations to promote drug-free lifestyles.

"Red Ribbon Week encourages our entire community to adopt healthy, drug-free lifestyles" said Sheriff Dale Schmidt. The campaign brings together parents, schools, and businesses as we look for ways to keep kids and communities drug-free.

In 1985, Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Enrique S. "Kiki" Camarena was killed by drug traffickers. Shortly after his death, citizens from his hometown in Calexico, California began wearing red ribbons to remember him and commemorate his sacrifice.

The first official Red Ribbon Week celebration was created by the National Family Partnership in 1988. NFP continues to coordinate the campaign for families, schools, and communities across the nation each year. Since then, the red ribbon has symbolized a continuing commitment to reducing the demand for illicit drugs in our communities.

"Red Ribbon Week gives us the opportunity to be vocal and visible in our efforts to achieve a drug-free community," said Sheriff Dale Schmidt.

"Research shows that children are less likely to use alcohol and other drugs when parents and other role models are clear and consistent in their opposition to drug use and the misuse of prescription drugs."

During Red Ribbon Week we will be hosting a Drug Take Back event in which we will be taking back unused and expired prescription medication. This event will take place on October 26, 2019 to stress the importance of properly disposing these medications. While this is a one day event, these prescription drugs are accepted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at the Dodge County Sheriff's Office and also at various times at other local police departments in and around Dodge County as well. Please see the prescription dropbox flyer that accompanies this press release.

Visit GetSmartAboutDrugs.com for more information about Red Ribbon Week or visit the Dodge County Sheriff's Office website www.dodgecountysheriff.com. Help us to keep our community safe as we continue our efforts to be drug free.

Questions can be directed to Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt.

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